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CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 26 May 1949

SUBJECT Possible Return of CHANG Chih-chung
to Sinkiang Province

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. At a meeting of the Tungkan Association in Tihua on [REDACTED] LIU Meng-ch'un, Secretary-General of the Sinkiang Provincial Government, told the members that General CHANG Chih-chung was returning to Sinkiang Province from Peiping to assume control of the province.
2. It is rumored in Tihua that the Sinkiang Provincial Government is attempting to turn over control of Sinkiang to the Chinese Communists.

25X1A [REDACTED] comment. Nationalist control in Sinkiang is now almost non-existent and the provincial officials probably feel that alignment with the Chinese Communists would put the provincial government in a stronger position in dealing with the USSR. The indigenous elements in Sinkiang are generally anti-Chinese and the fact that the new regime would be Communist is not likely to change their feelings. At present, because of the opposition of the Moslems in Ninghsia and Tsinghai Provinces, it would be most difficult for the Chinese Communists to send any troops into Sinkiang. Any realignment of the provincial government will probably take place slowly. The end result may be that the position of Sinkiang in relation to Communist China will be similar to the position of the Mongolian People's Republic in relation to the USSR.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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